

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20250

AND

AGRICULTURE CANADA
PFRASHELTERBELT CENTRE
INDIAN HEAD, SASKATCHEWAN S0G 2 K 0

AND

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20250

NOTICE TO NURSERYMEN RELATIVE TO RELEASE OF CANAM HYBRID POPLAR

The Agricultural Research Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the PFRA Shelterbelt Centre, Agriculture Canada announce the release of **CANAM** hybrid poplar for use in field and farmstead windbreaks, wildlife habitat and fuelwood plantings in the northern Great Plains of North America.

CANAM originated as a single seedling that was selected in 1971 at the PFRA Shelterbelt Centre, Indian Head, Saskatchewan from a seedling population grown from open-pollinated seed harvested from single tree of *Populus* 'Walker'. The seedling was selected for rapid early growth and resistance to leaf rust. The parent tree is now 23 years old, free of disease and growing vigorously at the Shelterbelt Centre, Indian Head, Saskatchewan.

CANAM poplar (*Populus* 'CANAM') is a vegetatively propagated female hybrid poplar. A deciduous tree, **CANAM** grows 15.2 to 18.0 meters (50 to 60 feet) tall with a narrow, upright crown and branches angled sharply upward and branchlets angled at 45 degrees to the branch. The trunk is grayish-green to beige and the leaves are rhomboid to deltoid, shiny green on top and dull green beneath, and 5.1 to 7.6 centimeters (2 to 3 inches) long. The female catkins are light green and approximately 6.4 to 8.9 centimeters (2.5 to 3.5 inches) long.

CANAM has been performance tested as PFRA #PX71-W131 in Saskatchewan by personnel at the PFRA Shelterbelt Centre, Indian Head, Saskatchewan. In the United States, **CANAM** was evaluated as Mandan #14390 by personnel at the USDA, ARS Northern Great Plains Laboratory, Mandan, North Dakota, and the USDA, NRCS, Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota. **CANAM** differs from other hybrid poplars by combining very rapid growth rate with excellent tolerance to drought and winter damage.

In clonal trials with other poplar clones, **CANAM** had greater than average survival, height, and crown width and less than average crown density, dead terminal shoots, crown die-back, sprouting, defoliation by cottonwood leaf beetles, and bud deformation by the poplar bud gall mite. **CANAM** is superior to most standard nursery hybrid poplar clones in height growth, drought hardiness and reduced **susceptibility** to winter damage. 'Northwest' poplar and 'Walker' poplar are the only standard clones that have equal or better survival.

CANAM is recommended for planting in USDA plant hardiness zones 3a, 3b, 4a and 4b within the area of the northern Great Plains shown in Figure 1a & 1b. It has not been adequately tested outside this area.

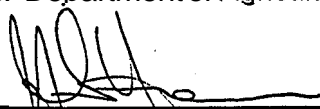
A limited number of dormant, hardwood cuttings will be available for distribution to nurseries, experiment stations, and arboreta. Written requests should be sent to Richard A. Cunningham, USDA, ARS, Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory, P.O. Box 459, Mandan, ND 58554, or to William Schroeder, PFRA Shelterbelt Centre, Box 940, Indian Head, Saskatchewan S0G 2K0. Genetic material of this release will be deposited in the National Plant Germplasm System where it will be available for research purposes, including development and commercialization of new cultivars.



Administrator, Agricultural Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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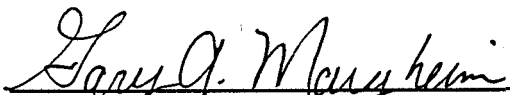
Date



Manager, PFRA Shelterbelt Centre
Agriculture Canada

22/5/95

Date



Acting for
Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

2/10/95

Date

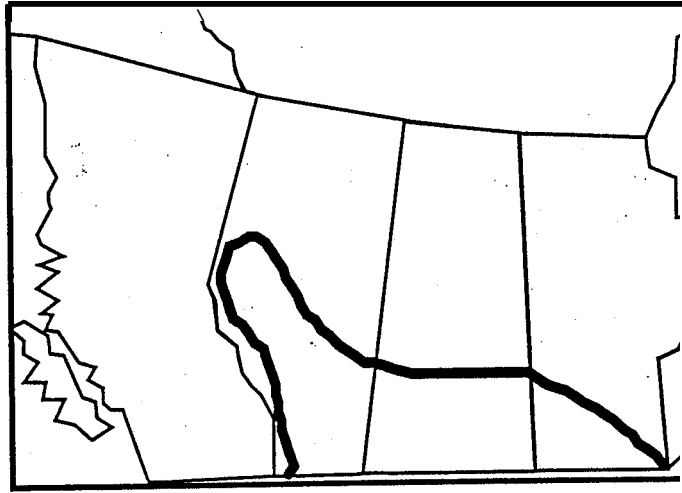


Figure 1a. Primary area of adaptation of CANAM hybrid poplar in Canada.

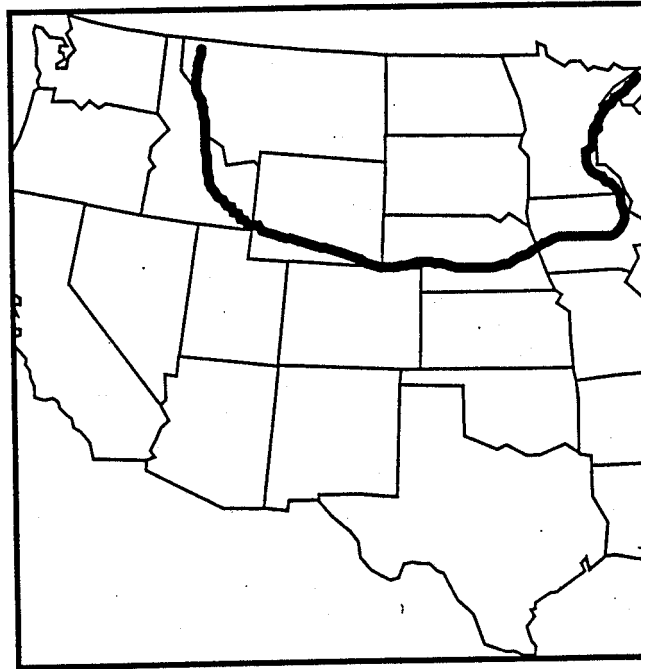


Figure 1b. Primary area of adaptation of CANAM hybrid poplar in the U. S. A.